

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-11 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 INT-08 EB-11

FEA-02 COA-02 ACDA-19 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-02

AID-20 IGA-02 FRB-02 AGR-20 CEA-02 STR-08 OIC-04

DRC-01 /270 W

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R 312313Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2561

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USINT ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 358

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN AG

SUBJ: ALGERIAN INITIATIVE ON EXTRAORDINARY UNGA SESSION

REF: ALGIERS 206

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. FOLLOWING CALL ON SYG TO DISCUSS BOUMEDIENE
INITIATIVE, ALGERIAN PERMREP RAHAL GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE
AT UN, AFTERNOON JAN 31. IN COMMENTING AT CONFERENCE ON
MEETING WITH SYG, RAHAL SAID THAT WALDHEIM HAD
RESTRICTED HIS REMARKS TO STATEMENT THAT HE WOULD
HAVE TO CONSULT WITH HIS LEGAL AIDES AS TO WHETHER EXTRAORDINARY
SESSION OR RESUMPTION OF 28TH UNGA WOULD BE IN ORDER. RAHAL THEN
REPORTEDLY TOLD CORRESPONDENTS THAT, REGARDLESS OF ITS
TECHNICAL FORMAT, CONFERENCE WOULD COME ABOUT, SINCE
80 COUNTRIES FAVORED IT, AND VOTES OF ONLY 68 WERE
REQUIRED. HE DID OBSERVE, HOWEVER, THAT ALGERIAN
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INITIATIVE HAD NOT RESULTED FROM CONSULTATIONS WITH "NON-

ALIGNED"; RATHER, THAT IT FOLLOWED ON FROM ALGERIA'S INTER-
PRETATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES AS HEAD OF NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE.
KEY THRUST OF UN MEETING WOULD INVOLVE QUESTION OF
RAW MATERIALS, IN ADDITION TO FUELS, AND THEIR ROLE IN
RELATIONS BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
IN REPLY TO QUESTION, RAHAL DESCRIBED US ENERGY MEETING
IN WASHINGTON AS "NEFARIOUS," CHARACTERIZING ITS
OBJECTIVE AS THE IMPOSITION OF US WILL ON OTHERS. HE
SAID, FURTHER, THAT ALGERIA KNEW NOTHING
OF ANY IMMINENT LIFTING OF OIL EMBARGO. END UNCLASSIFIED

2. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF
UNCOORDINATED ASPECT OF ALGERIAN INITIATIVE, MOST OF
AFRICANS ATTENDING SESSION INFORMED US PRIVATELY
THAT THEY NOW MUST SEEK INSTRUCTIONS FROM
CAPITALS ON WHETHER TO SUPPORT BOUMEDIENE PROPOSAL.
OAU REP, POLLING AFRICANS AT CONFERENCE, TOLD US THAT
AFRICANS HAD TOLD HIM THE SAME, ADDING THAT MOST OAU MEMBERS
WERE LOATHE TO BE AS SCATHING AS RAHAL OVER US
INITIATIVE, AND THAT THEY ALSO HAD TO STUDY FRENCH PROPOSAL
FURTHER. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

3. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. AT SUBSEQUENT MINI-BRIEFING, OPI
SPOKESMAN SAID THAT 28TH UNGA PRESIDENT BENITES
WOULD MEET FEB 1 WITH RAHAL. SYG FEELS THAT THERE IS A VERY
CLEAR REQUEST FOR MEETING AND THAT THERE ARE
STRAIGHTFORWARD RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR DEALING
WITH IT. SYG IS TAKING FIRST STEPS UNDER PROCEDURE, I.E.,
EVENING JAN 31, HE WILL BE SENDING LETTER TO MEMBER
STATES, TO BE ANSWERED WITHIN THIRTY DAYS, POLLING VOTES
ON SPECIAL SESSION. ACCORDING TO SPOKESMAN, SYG FEELS
THAT SPECIAL MEETING SHOULD BE EXPLORED FIRST BUT, IF THIS
DOES NOT WORK OUT, THAT HE WOULD CONSIDER RESUMPTION OF 28TH
UNGA OR MOVING UP SPECIAL 1975 MEETING TO EARLIER DATE.
END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. COMMENT: LANGUAGE OF OPI
SPOKESMAN IS DISTINCTLY LOOSE. SYG INFORMED
AMB SCALI LATE JAN 31 THAT HE HAD BEEN REQUESTED TO CONVENE
SPECIAL SESSION AND THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES HE
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WOULD BEGIN POLLING MEMBERSHIP FORTHWITH. END COMMENT.
END CONFIDENTIAL

4. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. ADDRESSEES ARE AWARE THAT
SYG WALDHEIM, IF REQUESTED BY MEMBER TO CONVENE
SPECIAL SESSION OF GA, IS REQUIRED BY RULE 9 OF RULES OF
PROCEDURE TO POLL UN MEMBERSHIP ON REQUEST. IF WITHIN
30 DAYS OF THIS POLL, MAJORITY OF MEMBER STATES (68)

AGREED, WALDHEIM UNDER RULE 8 WOULD HAVE TO CONVENE SESSION
WITHIN 15 DAYS.

5. OFFICERS OF SPECIAL SESSION INCLUDING PRESIDENT MUST
BE FRESHLY ELECTED. SESSION IS NOT LEGALLY VIEWED
AS CONTINUATION OF PRECEDING REGULAR SESSION.
SIMILARLY, AGENDA, CREDENTIALS, ETC., ARE TAKEN UP
AFRESH, ALTHOUGH IN PAST DIVERSIONARY ISSUES HAVE
USUALLY BEEN AVOIDED. FORMALITIES ASIDE, TRADITION
IS TO ELECT PRESIDENT OF REGULAR SESSION AS SPECIAL
SESSION PRESIDENT. BENITES' ELECTION WOULD BE NATURAL
UNLESS HE INDISPOSED OR UNAVAILABLE, OR "NON-ALIGNED"
GOT BEHIND POPULAR FIGURE SUCH AS BOUTEFILKA.

6. DESPITE RULES AND PRECEDENT, IT SEEMS TO US THAT
SPECIAL SESSION RISKS SEEING VARIETY OF UNPLEASANT SIDE
ISSUES RAISED -- E.G., KHMER, SOUTH AFRICAN AND PORTUGUESE
CREDENTIALS. NONETHELESS, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE
FOR US TO OPPOSE SESSION AS IT WILL MOST CERTAINLY TAKE PLACE
AND NEGATIVE POSTURE WOULD REDUCE OUR CAPACITY TO
INFLUENCE CHARACTER OF SESSION. USUN IS THEREFORE
AVOIDING COMMENT ENTIRELY AT THIS STAGE. END LIMITED OFFICIAL
USE.
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